

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Isamu MINOWA

Application No.: 10/575,264

Confirmation No.: 8805

Filed: April 10, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: PIPE JOINT

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notification of Missing Requirements dated March 8, 2007, Applicant respectfully submits:

- ☒ Attached is a copy of the Notification of Missing Requirements (371 Formalities Letter).
- ☒ Attached is the Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney ☐ Original ☒ Photocopy.
- ☐ The specification attached to the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney is a true copy of the specification that was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 10, 2006, including any amendments thereto (if applicable) filed on even date therewith.
- ☒ The undersigned hereby declares that "Attorney Docket No. 4776-0102PUS1" on page 1 of the attached Inventors' Declaration corresponds to Appl. No. 10/575,264 filed April 10, 2006 entitled "PIPE JOINT."

- ☐ Attached is an English language translation of the above-identified application that was filed in a foreign language, which should be used as the copy for examination purposes.

See the attached Translator's Verification; or

The undersigned states that the English translation attached hereto is a true and correct translation of the application as originally filed in a foreign language.

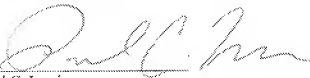
- ☐ Attached are - sheet(s) of drawings. Please substitute these replacement drawings for the corresponding - sheet(s) of drawings on file in the above-identified application.
- ☐ Attached are substitute claims commencing on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(h).
- ☐ Attached is a substitute abstract commencing on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b).
- ☐ Attached is a substitute specification that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.52. The substitute specification does not contain new matter.
- ☐ Attached is a preliminary amendment.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
- ☐ Attached is a Supplemental Application Data Sheet (ADS).
- ☒ Submitted concurrently herewith under separate cover for recording is an Assignment.
- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☒ The Government Filing Surcharge for late filing of oath and/or declaration in the amount of \$130.00 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.494 and 1.492 was previously paid for concurrently with the filing of the application on April 10, 2006.

☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 8, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Paul C. Lewis

Registration No.: 43,368

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

Attachment(s)



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: 333 Mendenhall Park, P.O. Box 776  
 P.O. Box 1400  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1499  
 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. 10/575,264	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT Isamu Minowa	ATTY. DCKETING NO. 4776-0102PUS1
---	---------------------------------------	-------------------------------------

2292  
 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH  
 PO BOX 747  
 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

AB  
**DOCKETED**  
 Perfect  
 10-8-2007

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP04/14822	
1A FILING DATE 10/07/2004	PRIORITY DATE 10/29/2003

CONFIRMATION NO. 8805

371 FORMALITIES LETTER



\*0000000022734615\*

Date Mailed: 03/08/2007

### NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/E/OUS)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Copy of the International Application filed on 04/10/2006
- English Translation of the IA filed on 04/10/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 04/10/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 04/10/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 04/10/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 04/10/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 04/10/2006

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date.

**ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.**

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web.  
<https://portal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html>

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197 or visit our website at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc>.

**If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.**

SHAKEEL AHMED

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 208

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/575,264	PCT/JP04/14822	4776-0102PUS1

FORM PCT/DO/EO/805 (371 Formalities Notice)